

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-12 DPW-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 AID-20 OMB-01 RSR-01 /116 W
----- 061226

R 130331 Z APR 73 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 71
INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 6231

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS
SUBJECT: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP MR 1, APRIL 12, 1973

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON FROM DANANG APR 12
REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE DANANG 392

1. FOLLOWING APRIL 10 EXTREMELY LOW LEVEL OF ONLY EIGHT INCIDENTS, THE LEVEL OF ACTIVITY APRIL 11 ROSE TO 45 INCIDENTS; SIX GROUND ATTACKS, 36 ATTACKS BY FIRE (ABF' S) AND THREE MISCELLANEOUS. HEAVIEST ACTIVITY WAS AGAIN IN THE FIRST DIVISION AO WEST OF HUE WITH THREE GROUND ATTACKS AND 23 ABF' S. THE SECOND DIVISION AO IN QUANG NGAI/ QUANG TIN PROVINCES ALSO SAW INCREASED ACTIVITY WITH TWO GROUND ATTACKS AND FIVE ABF' S. THE AIRBORNE DIVISION AO WEST OF QUANG TRI CITY REPORTED TWO ABF' S, T E FIRST REPORTED INCIDENTS IN A WEEK; HOWEVER, THE MARINES WITH AN AO EAST OF QUANG TRI CITY CONTINUED THEIR CUSTOMARY " NO INCIDENTS" REPORT.

2. ICCS:
A. POLOFF QUANG TIN REPORTS BEING TOLD BY CANDELS THAT THEY FULLY EXPECT TO LEAVE VIETNAM BY JUNE 30 AND THAT THE HELICOPTER DOWNING IN QUANG TRI MAKES THIS MORE CERTAIN THAN EVER. AREA DIRECTOR AND POLOFF QUANG NGAI WERE TOLD BY CANDELS ON THE SUB- REGION TEAM THERE THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO CHANGE IN UNCOOPERATIVE POLISH
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AND HUNGARIAN ATTITUDES(SEPTTEL).

B. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION RECEIVED BY POLOFF QUANG NGAI FROM THE CANDEL, THE ICCS SUB- REGION TEAM THERE HAS RECEIVED SEVERAL REQUESTS FOR INVESTIGATION FROM GVN OFFICIALS. THESE INCLUDE THE MINING OF A COMMERCIAL TRUCK ON NATIONAL HIGH 1 NORTH OF SA HUYNH ON MARCH 13; THE MORTAR ATTACK ON HUNG NGHIA HAMLET NEAR THE VAN LY PRISONER EXCHANGE SITE IN NORTHWESTERN DUC PHO DISTRICT ON MARCH 18 AND THE UNSUCCESSFUL B-40 ATTACK ON A COMMERCIAL BUS NORTH OF SA HUYNH ON MARCH 31. ICCS/ SAIGON HAS NOTIFIED THE SUB- REGION TEAM TO GO AHEAD WITH INVESTIGATION OF THE MARCH 25 INCIDENT IN WHICH A VNAF CHINOOK CARRYING ARVN POWS FROM VAN LY WAS FIRED ON AND ONE CREW MEMBER WOUNDED.

C. ACCORDING TO CANDELS OF THE SUB- REGION TEAM AT TAM KY AS REPORTED BY POLOFF QUANG TIN, THEY AND INDOELS ON APRIL 91 VISITED THE SITE OF AN ATTACK ON A PF OUTPOST AT THE INVITATION OF THE PROVINCE CHIEF, WHO HAD TOLD THEM HE PREFERRED AN UN-OFFICIAL VISIT BE MADE WHILE THE " EVIDENCE WAS STILL WARM" RATHER THAN AWAIT THE LENGTHLY PROCESSING OF A COMPLAINT THROUGH THE JMC AND ICCS TO SAIGON AND BACK.

3. ATTITUDES OF INFLUENTIAL OFFICIALS:

IN A CONVERSATION WITH THE CHIEF, WAR VICTIMS SECTION, CONGEN RRO, CONDUCTED DURING AN INSPECTION OF THE PRISONER EXCHANGE SITE IN QUANG TRI CITY ON APRIL 9, DR PHAN QUANG DAN, MINISTER OF STATE, COMMENTED THAT THE GVN INTENDS TO ENCOURAGE OTHER EXCHANGES TO TAKE PLACE WITH " THEM"(INDICATING THE NVA ACROSS THE THACH HAN RIVER) ON A VERY INFORMAL BASIS. DAN SAID: " FOR EXAMPLE, WE MAY SEND SOME CHOCOLATES TO THEM OR PERHAPS WE MIGHT SAVE ONE OF THEIR MEN FROM DROWNING IN THE RIVER. THE IDEA WILL BE TO DEVELOP FRIENDLY CONTACTS BETWEEN BOTH SIDES."

4. PRISONERS OF WAR:

IN QUANG TIN, TWELVE PRISONERS OF WAR WERE RELEASED BY THE PRG AT KY QUE VILLAGE, TAM KY DISTRICT, SOUTHWEST OF THE PROVINCE CAPITAL. MOST OF THOSE RELEASED BELONGED TO THE 22 ND ARVN DIVISION AND HAD BEEN CAPTURED LAST SPRING IN THE AREAS OF KONTUM CITY AND DAK TO, KONTUM PROVINCE.

5. LATE REPORT HELICOPTER INCIDENT:

THE ICCS INVESTIGATING THE PARIL 7 HELICOPTER CRASH RETURNED
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TO HUE LAST NIGHT. POLOFF HUE WAS UNABLE TO LEARN ANY-

THING ABOUT THE FINDINGS OF THE INVESTIGATING TEAM BECAUSE OF
EXTREME SENSITIVITY ON PART OF CANDEL. ALL CHIP DELEGATIONS
MET AT 1100 HOURS LOCAL TIME TO DISCUSS INVESTIGATING TEAM
FINDINGS. SIGNED BROWN UNQUOTE
BUNKER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON06231
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730442/aaaainde.tel
Line Count: 124
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 DANANG 392
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Aug-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <28-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980113
Subject: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP MR 1, APRIL 12, 1973 FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON FROM DANANG APR 12
REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO QUOTE DANANG 392
TAGS: MILI, PINS, PINT
To: EA
JEC PARIS
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005